

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
6<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL, 37<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 11-37**

**TABLED ON JULY 3, 1968**

It is universally recognized that transportation facilities are one of, if not the most important requisites of a new and developing area such as the Northwest Territories.

To the era of the river barge, the cat train and the bush pilot, we have added the scheduled air lines, the railway and the motor truck to meet our growing transportation needs. The Northwest Territories has developed and will continue to do so if adequate transportation is provided with all modes of transport doing their part.

Without detracting in any way from the importance of the other modes of transportation, the trucking industry, with its flexibility of operation, its door to door service and its ability to operate off highway on bush and lake trails, will play an ever increasing role in the development of our Northland.

If we accept the principal that motor truck services are essential to our economy, we must recognize the need for progressive legislation to ensure the truck operator will be fairly regulated and, where necessary, protected from unfair competition and discriminatory practises. Many jurisdictions have found it necessary to enact legislation designed to preserve and foster a strong and efficient trucking industry.

The "Vehicles Ordinance", as enacted by Council became effective April 1, 1968. It contains new measures that are not familiar to truck operators and licensing offices alike and has resulted in some doubt as to its application. Acting upon a request to the proper authorities for clarification of the regulations, territorial officers, Frank Smith and Frank Murphy, travelled to Hay River, May 27th, to meet with truck operators and other interested parties.

HAY RIVER TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

The meeting was held in the Territorial Court Room at Hay River at 7:00 p.m., May 27th, 1968, under the chairmanship of S.A.H. Dodds, area Administrator. The minutes of the meeting are attached to this submission together with the resolutions passed.

MINUTES AND RESOLUTIONS

In view of the opinions expressed and the resolutions passed unanimously it is recommended that:

The Commissioner and Council of the Northwest Territories take whatever action is necessary to implement a policy of complete reciprocity in vehicle licensing between the Northwest Territories and the adjoining provinces, particularly Alberta and that a Licensing Board be set up comparable in authority and duties to those of the provinces.

Recommended that the schedule to the Vehicle Ordinance be repealed and that the Commissioner be empowered to set license fees by regulation in order to correct as quickly as possible the licensing problems that have become apparent.

Recommended that the full license fee be placed on the power unit of a tractor trailer combination and that each trailer require an identification plate only, costing a nominal sum.

Recommended that a clear definition be given for Public Service Vehicle Plates, Private Vehicle Plates and any other license plates that are issued to truck owners in the N.W.T.

Recommended that Council examine the feasibility of inserting in government contracts, a clause requiring the contractor to use local resident N.W.T. truckers before allowing him to bring in trucks from outside and that the rates paid be the established rate for the service rendered.